

## **ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Location:**

November 14, 2011  
DoubleTree Hotel – Richmond Airport  
Richmond, Virginia

**ABTEL Members Present:**

Debra Abadie  
Rena Berlin  
Tracey L. Dingus  
Dr. Cathy Fisher  
Dr. Courtney Gaskins  
Charlotte B. Hayer

Kathy Heil  
Kenneth LaLonde  
Dr. Susan G. Magliaro  
Brian Matney  
Patricia McGloine  
Nancy Moga

Dr. James T. Roberts  
Dr. Angela Turley  
Janice Underwood  
Ruth Wallace  
Vern Williams

**ABTEL Members Absent:**

Jaim L. Foster  
Dawn Rees-Blakeman

**Board of Education Liaison:**

Betsy Beamer

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Dr. Gary Krapf  
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Julia Tucker-Lloyd  
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts  
Virginia Department of Education

**Department of Education Staff:**

Dr. Mark R. Allan

**Guests:**

Paul Joseph, JECS Consulting Services  
Cathy Owens-Oliver, Educational Testing Service  
Bekah Saxon, Virginia Education Association

## **FULL ADVISORY BOARD CONVENES**

**9:00 a.m.**

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Tracey Dingus, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Tracey Dingus acknowledged guests to the Advisory Board and they introduced themselves.

- **Approval of Agenda**

**Dr. Angela Turely made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ruth Wallace seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Approval of Minutes**

**Dr. Courtney Gaskins made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2011, Advisory Board meeting. Patricia McGloine seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

- **Advisory Board Recommendations Presented to the Board of Education**

Patty Pitts reviewed agenda items that were presented to the Virginia Board of Education for first review at the October 27, 2011, meeting of the Board. Items reviewed and discussed included:

First Review of a Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to Approve Education Programs Offered by Virginia Institutes of Higher Education as Required by the Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia (8 VAC20-542 et seq.) and

First Review of a Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to Grant Approval to Add New Education (Endorsement) Programs at Averett University, Bluefield College, George Mason University, Regent University, Shenandoah University, University of Richmond, and Virginia State University.

- **Virginia State and Local Civic Education Licensure Requirement**

Dr. Allan reviewed Senate Bill 715 requiring civics education training specific to Virginia for educators. The legislation passed by the 2010 General Assembly states:

*§ 1. That the Board of Education shall amend its regulations to require that all teacher education preparation programs in early/primary preK-3, elementary education preK-6, middle education 6-8, and history and social sciences include local government and civics instruction specific to Virginia.*

*§ 2. That the Board of Education shall amend its regulations to require any individual seeking renewal of a license with an endorsement in early/primary preK-3, elementary education preK-6, middle education 6-8, history and social sciences, history, or political science to complete study of the structures, function, and powers of state and local government of Virginia and the importance of citizen participation in the political process in state and local government of Virginia. The study may be satisfactorily completed using any applicable option described in the Virginia Licensure Renewal Manual. This requirement shall be met one time for the individual's next renewal after July 1, 2012.*

Dr. Allan shared that the Department of Education is collaborating with Virginia Tech to develop an online *Virginia State and Local Civic Education Module* to be available in late spring of 2012. Completing the online module is one method for completing the Virginia state and local civics renewal requirement.

Dr. Allan also reported that institutes of higher education will be able to integrate the complete study of the structures, function, and powers of state and local government of Virginia and the importance of citizen participation in the political process in state and local government of Virginia into existing coursework rather than adding a new course for this purpose only. In addition, institutes of higher education may allow students enrolled in approved programs to complete the online *Virginia State and Local Civic Education Module* to fulfill this requirement.

- **Overview of the 2011 Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers and the Virginia Standards for the Professional Practice of Teachers, Revision of the Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Principals, and an Update on Virginia's Performance Pay Pilot.**

Dr. Allan provided a presentation on each of the following three topics.

Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers

The standards define what teachers should know and be able to do, and they establish a foundation upon which all aspects of teacher development from teacher education to induction and ongoing professional development can be aligned. The revised *Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers* incorporate these teaching standards. This document serves as a resource for school divisions in the implementation of the Board of Education's performance standards and evaluation criteria for teachers and for colleges and universities in teacher preparation.

### Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Principals

After revising the performance standards and evaluation criteria for teachers, the Virginia Department of Education has formed a work group to study model principal evaluation systems. The study is being completed to provide revised guidance documents and new principal evaluation models that can be used in school divisions. The work group will develop the *Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Principals* for presentation to the Virginia Board of Education.

### Virginia's Performance Pay Pilot

Teachers in 25 schools across the Commonwealth are participating in a performance-pay pilot during the 2011-2012 school year. The participating schools must implement the performance standards and model teacher-evaluation system approved by the Board of Education in April 2011. Principals and teachers in the pilot schools are receiving technical assistance and professional development from Dr. James Stronge, Heritage Professor of Educational Policy, Planning, and Leadership, The College of William and Mary, and several of his professional colleagues.

- **New Computer Based Praxis Assessments**

Dr. Allan announced to the ABTEL members that two of Virginia's Praxis II tests are now available via a computer-based assessment in addition to the paper/pencil assessment.

- Middle School: English Language Arts (5049) – Computer Based
- Middle School: English Language Arts (0049) – Pencil/Paper Based
- Middle School: Social Studies (5089) – Computer Based
- Middle School: Social Studies (0089) – Pencil/Paper Based

- **The New Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5031) Test Developed by the Educational Testing Service**

Ms. Cathy Owens-Oliver, client relations director, ETS Teacher Licensure and Certification, provided a presentation on the new Praxis II: Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5031). The Educational Testing Service (ETS) that administers the Praxis II assessments has developed a new Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5031) assessment. The purpose of the 3.5 hours (4 separately timed subjects) test is to assess whether the entry-level elementary teacher has the content knowledge that is important, necessary, and needed at time of entry to the profession in order to teach English, mathematics, social studies, and science at the elementary level.

- **First Review of Virginia's Requirements for the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)**

Mrs. Patty Pitts provided background information and a summary of the major elements of the First Review of Virginia's Requirement for the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA). On November 16, 2009, the Advisory Board recommended a cut core of 161 for

the SLLA which was one Standard Error of Measurement above the Virginia's panel's recommended score. The recommendation was made with the caveat that the passing rates for the SLLA should be reviewed after three test administrations in Virginia. The Board of Education approved a cut score of 163 and requested that the cut score be reviewed after three test administrations. ABTEL members were provided with detailed pass rates and score data for the Virginia test administrations.

- **First Review of Virginia's Requirement for the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA).**

Mrs. Patty Pitts provided background information and a summary of the major elements of the First Review of Virginia's Requirement for the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) that has been required for initial licensure since 2006. The Virginia Board of Education approved the cut scores for the assessment on March 22, 2006. ABTEL members were asked to review the VCLA data provided, including the current pass rates for the assessment along with the current cut score.

## **LIASON REPORTS**

### **The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)**

No report was given.

### **The Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)**

Gary Krapf provided an overview of the recently released National Assessment on Educational Progress scores for Virginia. He also shared with members that Governor Bob McDonnell has announced that institutions of higher education can begin submitting applications for \$600,000 in the Virginia College Partnership Laboratory School Planning Grants. These grants will be awarded to public institutions of higher education in Virginia that operate a teacher education program approved by the Virginia Board of Education. In addition, Gary invited ABTEL members to visit the State Council on Higher Education in Virginia's Web site for news related to higher education in Virginia.

### **The Virginia Department of Education**

No additional reports were given.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements made.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure was adjourned.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Executive Committee met after the conclusion of the Advisory Board meeting.